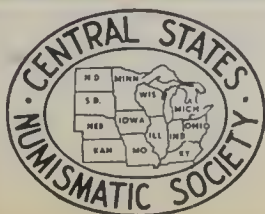


*Quarterly Journal of the  
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**the centinel**



**Volume 31, Number 1  
Spring, 1983**

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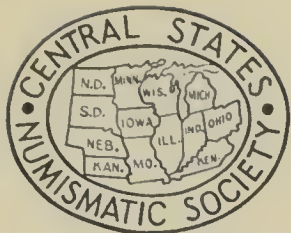
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SPRING, 1983

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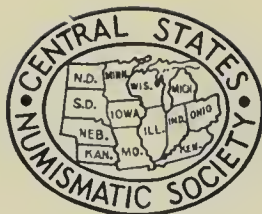
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*Central States*



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Address all correspondence regarding *The Centinel* to the Editor, except changes of address, which should be directed to the Secretary-Treasurer.



## *City of Dearborn, Michigan*

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---

MAYOR JOHN B. O'REILLY

February 1, 1983

Dear Friends:

Once more, it is my special pleasure to welcome the Central States Numismatic Society to Dearborn for its 44th Convention. I say "special pleasure" because, in addition to being mayor, I am privileged to be an honorary member of the Dearborn Coin Club.

You will recall from your visit in 1979 that Dearborn is an ideal location for such an event. Our city is proud of its reputation for hospitality and excellent facilities, such as the Dearborn Civic Center.

We are aware of the prime purpose of your visit, but we hope that you can take time from your busy schedules to tour such local attractions as Greenfield Village, the Henry Ford Museum and Henry Ford's Fair Lane Mansion. Dearborn is also blessed with many fine shops, restaurants and places to stay.

With our warmest hope that your gathering is successful and memorable in every way, I remain

Sincerely,

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## PRESIDENTIAL

# COMMENTARY

Convention time is here again and members of the Central States Numismatic Society will converge on Dearborn, Michigan for our 44th Anniversary Convention and Coin Show on April 7 - 10. From our first convention, which some of our senior members will remember was held in Milwaukee, our organization now sponsors what is generally regarded as one of the three most notable numismatic events of the year.

This growth has been no chance happening, and is attributed to the hard work of many local club members whose efforts form the backbone of our annual convention. Perhaps nowhere in the entire country is the club scene as strong as the State of Michigan. When you attend our conclave this year take note of the numerous educational programs and the outstanding quality of the exhibit area. These parts of our annual show are no mere accident but are the result of careful planning and the contribution of interest by the numismatists whose efforts support these very important aspects of a quality convention.

Whether you are in Dearborn primarily for the commercial aspects of the bourse, or the educational portions of the convention programs, there will be something to occupy more than your every waking moment.

As always, our convention has been able to attract an outstanding auction, expertly catalogued this year by Q. David Bowers. A collection of past Central States auction catalogues would certainly be a fair measure of

the state of the numismatic market in the year they took place, and I expect our sale this year will be a similar yardstick.

Our Saturday evening banquet is the only chance all our members have each year to get together and renew the many friendships we have formed over the years. One thing I always enjoy about the banquet is seeing so many of the faces who have made significant contributions to our hobby in their own local area. I'm not entirely sure why it would be the case, but CSNS has always seemed to attract some of the most active club members from throughout our region and we have a reputation as being an organization of doers, rather than of mere joiners.

Many of the people who have been active in the life of CSNS over the past year will be recognized at the banquet and I hope as many of our members as possible will be present.

For a few days in April, Dearborn, Michigan will be transformed into the numismatic capital of North America, and then we will all have our 1984 visit to Milwaukee, Wisconsin to look forward to as the Milwaukee Numismatic Society celebrates its 50th Anniversary by hosting CSNS.

Kurt R. Krueger  
President

---

When the Coinage Act of 1792 established a monetary system for the United States, the value of gold was \$19.39 per ounce.



# British Mint Announces Caribbean Issues

The British Royal Mint has announced two exciting issues from the Caribbean which have now become available to North American collectors. Three Proof Commemoratives from St. Kitts-Nevis and from St. Lucia, celebrate the bicentenary of the battles between England and France for supremacy in the region, while the 1981 East Caribbean States Proof Set represents a number of firsts for circulating currency in that monetary area.

The East Caribbean States, formerly the East Caribbean Currency Authority, consists of seven small nations: Antigua, Dominica, Grenada, Montserrat, St. Kitts-Nevis-Anguilla, St. Lucia and St. Vincent. The strong British influence on these islands is readily apparent to any visitor and to any numismatist. For more than three centuries since their discovery, the rich islands of the Caribbean were the scene of a continuing struggle between England, France and Spain for ultimate control of the region.



The delightful special issues of the St. Kitts-Nevis \$100 coin in gold proof and \$20 in silver proof and the St. Lucia \$10 in silver proof, commemorate what were to be the two final major battles in determining the islands' future. They occurred coincidentally at the same time that the American revolution was drawing to its conclusion. The French fleet, under the command of Admiral Comte de Grasse, had already effectively ended the British blockade of America and now sought to drive the English from the Caribbean by laying siege to the strategic British base at Brimstone Hill on the island of St. Lucia. The British gallantly held out against all odds, until de Grasse was finally forced to withdraw to "other matters."

England, determined not to lose the Caribbean as well as America, dispatched "the fleet" under Admiral George Rodney, a brilliant tactician who realized that if the English lost this battle, they lost everything. More than two

days of fierce naval battle ensued off the Islands of the Saintes resulting in a crushing defeat for the French.

Rodney was created a Lord and awarded a pension of 2,000 pounds a year, while the Caribbean was assured its continuing British heritage. It is also suggested that the Louisiana Purchase was influenced by France's enforced change of heart on colonization in North America.

The siege of Brimstone Hill is the reverse design for the beautiful solid 22 karat gold \$100 (Caribbean) coin in superb proof condition, with the inscription "Bi-Centenary of the Siege of Brimstone Hill 1782-1982." The diameter is 22.05 mm and the weight 7.99 grams. An extremely limited minting of only 500 has been authorized. The reverse designs of the two silver proof coins depict scenes from the naval battle. The authorized minting for each coin is 2500. The three obverses bear the Coat of Arms of the respective islands. To facilitate the intricate design, the silver coins are particularly large, measuring 38.61 mm in diameter and weighing 28.28 grams.

The 1981 East Caribbean States Proof Set is the first issued under the E.C.S. rather than the original E.C.C.A. It is the first set of Caribbean coins to bear the Arnold Machin portrait of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II. Previous coins bore the Cecil Thomas portrait. It is also the first new Caribbean coinage since 1965 when E.C.C.A. was first formed to provide a single currency for the seven nations. The set also contains the first Caribbean \$1.00 coin. The reverse design on the \$1.00 (struck in aluminium bronze), 25¢, 10¢ (cupro-nickel) and 5¢ (aluminum) are of Sir Francis Drake's ship "The Golden Hind." It was Drake who established a British presence on the islands. The reverses of the 2¢ and 1¢ (aluminium) depict ears of corn, representing the islands agricultural richness. Only 5000 proof sets will be available worldwide. Prices for the issues described above are:

- \$100 St. Kitts-Nevis Gold Proof Coin, \$225 (U. S.) or \$276 (CAN).
- \$20 St. Kitts-Nevis Silver Proof Coin, \$45 (U. S.) or \$56 (CAN).
- \$10 St. Lucia Silver Proof Coin, \$45 (U. S.) or \$56 (CAN).
- 1981 E.C.S. Proof Set, \$29 (U. S.) or \$37 (CAN).

Orders and inquiries may be addressed to the British Royal Mint, c/o Barclays Bank, P. O. Box 2570, New York, NY 10163, or may be made by calling toll-free 1-800-221-1215.

---

## ABOUT THE COVER

One of the most worthwhile tourist attractions in the United States is located in Dearborn, Michigan, just a few minutes drive from the site of our CSNS Convention. The Henry Ford Museum and Greenfield Village will be well worth the time spent touring their fascinating exhibits. This replica of Philadelphia's Independence Hall highlights the entrance to the Ford Museum and Greenfield Village.

- Photograph courtesy of the Henry Ford Museum, Dearborn, Michigan

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# FUTURE CSNS CONVENTIONS

- 1983 — April 7 - 10 ..... Dearborn, Michigan  
Chairperson: Helen Sedo, Box 891, Dearborn, Michigan 48121
- 1984 — April 26 - 29 ..... Milwaukee, Wisconsin  
Chairman: A. P. "Del" Bertschy, 3939 N. Murray Ave., Shorewood, Wis. 53211
- 1985 — April 25 - 28 ..... Minneapolis, Minnesota  
Chairman: Dick Grinolds, Box 18002, Minneapolis, Minnesota 55418
- 1986 — April 24 - 27 ..... Milwaukee, Wisconsin
- 1987 — May 7 - 10 ..... St. Louis, Missouri  
Chairman: Ron Horstman, 6137 Victoria Ave., St. Louis, Missouri 63139
- 1988 — Dates to be announced ..... Indianapolis, Indiana

NOTE TO CLUB OFFICIALS: Interested in hosting a future CSNS Convention? It is not too early to begin thinking of the future! Submit your letter of invitation to the CSNS Secretary - Treasurer at your earliest convenience. Your request will receive the prompt attention of the Officers and Board of Governors.

---

## Information About Your Host — The Dearborn Coin Club

The Dearborn Coin Club was founded by Don Squire and Richard Tomczak, with the first meeting held on August 2, 1960, attended by 50 persons. Of those present on that date, four still belong to the club; and meetings are still held at the same location, the Dearborn Youth Center. Of the 58 charter members, 12 still retain membership although one resides in Kentucky and two others in Nevada.

When a club emblem was voted on, the winning design featured the replica of Independence Hall, located at Henry Ford Museum in Dearborn. Club medals have been struck for four special occasions: the 100th meeting, the 10th anniversary, the 300th meeting, and the 20th anniversary.

Throughout the years, the club has hosted its own coin shows along with hosting and co-hosting several conventions of the Michigan State Numismatic Society. Besides hosting this year's CSNS convention, the club also hosted the 40th anniversary convention in 1979.

Throughout the club's existence, only three life memberships have been conferred by the members because of the stringent requirements. The by-laws require "ten or more years of continuous, outstanding service to the club by a regular member" for this honor to be bestowed. All three honorees, Charles Lange, Larry Susalla, and Gene Collister, are still active participants in all club affairs.

## A MESSAGE FROM THE

# SECRETARY



It hardly seems possible that I am writing a convention message again. This past year has really gone by in a hurry. I am pleased that the hobby shows some signs of recovery — at least this is my impression based on the crowds of people I have seen at some of the major shows in our area.

I had the privilege of visiting the Michigan State Show in November and I hope our own convention has an equal number of enthusiastic collectors when we convene in Dearborn April 7 - 10. Helen Sedo, our chairperson, is an old "pro" at organizing major coin shows by now, so if hard work can accomplish a great show, we're all set.

I look forward to seeing all of you in Dearborn, so be sure to stop by the CSNS table to talk for a while. I always like to connect faces with our members names, so please do stop and introduce yourself. Also, a reminder that you can pay your annual dues at the convention and save a small amount on postage.

Governor and Past President Harold Berk has been hospitalized for six months or so — please add your prayers to mine that he will be fully recovered and able to be with us at Convention.

When I was in Dearborn for the Michigan State Show, I learned of a new group that has been started in that area — the Polish American Numismatic Society. The best of luck to them. This is another of the signs of growing interest in different phases of numismatics that is so healthy for our hobby.

Thanks to a couple of alert members who looked over the recently published list of dropped members and helped out with current addresses. This is the entire purpose of publishing the names — to try to keep our members. I know how easy it is to move and forget to send a new address for our mailing list, but please try to help us in this area when you do change addresses. Without a proper address, I am forced to remove names from the mailing list.

See you all in April! Before I close, I want to remind everyone attending our convention to **please** make your hotel reservation now. Our convention is always one of the most heavily attended coin shows in the entire country, and nothing can be more exasperating than hunting for a place to stay at the last minute. Convention headquarters is the Hyatt-Regency Hotel, where the show committee has negotiated a discount rate for our members.

Marjorie M. Owen  
Secretary-Treasurer



# Obsolete Note Reproduction Promotes Milwaukee Coin Show

A photographic reproduction of a Bank of Milwaukee obsolete note has been issued to promote Milwaukee's MidAmerica Coin Show, to be held July 29 - 31 at the MECCA Convention Center. Copies of the note, which features an advertising message on the reverse, may be obtained for 25¢ and a legal size self-addressed stamped envelope from Kevin Foley, Box 589, Milwaukee, WI 53201.



## World Paper Money Catalogue Released

Krause Publications of Iola, Wisconsin has announced the new 4th edition of the **Standard Catalog of World Paper Money** by Albert Pick.

The 960-page 4th edition covers 300 years of world paper money issues and includes listings and valuations for over 20,000 notes from more than 250 note-issuing authorities.

The catalog contains in excess of 8,500 photographs, making it an invaluable aid in identifying unknown pieces.

The "Pick" catalogue has come to be regarded as the "Bible" for world paper money collectors, and the revised 4th edition will only solidify the regard with which this reference source is held.

Priced at \$35, the book is available at your local coin store, or direct from the publisher at 700 East State Street, Iola, Wisconsin 54990.

## Cleveland Show Dates Are Announced

Fred Bart, Bourse Chairman of the Annual Metropolitan Cleveland Coin Show, has announced that the Ohio numismatic event will be held June 3 - 5 at the Cleveland Hilton South, located at 6200 Quarry Lane, one half mile East of I-77.

Bart told the **Centinel** that last year's show was among the best attended in the region and that the majority of dealers with tables at the 1982 show had already reserved space for this year's show, although a few tables have been held open to accommodate new dealers.

Bourse Chairman Bart can be contacted at P. O. Box 35134, Cleveland, Ohio 44135, or by calling (216) 267-3178.

The \$1 Liberty Head Gold Piece, minted from 1849-1854, was designed by James B. Longacre.



# **Notice of Proposed Amendments of By-Laws of Central States Numismatic Society**

The Governing Board of Central States Numismatic Society hereby recommends that Section 8 of Article III of the By-Laws of said Society be amended to read as follows:

"The candidate or candidates who have accepted nominations as aforesaid and who receive the largest number of votes for the respective offices shall be declared duly elected; provided, however, that when more than thirteen candidates have so accepted nominations for Governor not more than two candidates residing in any one State may be elected as Governors even though one or more defeated candidates therefrom shall each receive more votes than an elected candidate residing in some other State. If any member votes for a number of candidates for any one office in excess of the number to be elected therefore, his vote for that office will not be counted but his votes properly cast for candidates for other offices shall be counted. For example, if a member votes for more than 13 candidates for board of governors, none of his votes for board of governors shall be counted; but if he votes for not more than 13 candidates for board of governors but votes for more than two candidates residing in any one state, his votes for the candidates residing in such state will not be counted, but his votes properly cast for candidates for board of governors residing in other states shall be counted. The President will announce the names of those duly elected at the regular membership meeting of the Society. New officers and governors shall assume office upon their installation at the banquet held during the election year convention."

The above Amendment will be voted upon at the Membership Meeting to be held at the Hyatt Regency Hotel, Dearborn, Michigan, on Saturday, April 9, 1983 at 11:30 a.m.

# Royal Mint Strikes Hong Kong \$1000 Gold Coin Celebrating "Year of the Pig"



The British Royal Mint has announced the availability to North American collectors of the Hong Kong \$100 gold coin, celebrating the Chinese Lunar Year of the Pig which commenced on February 13.

Struck in solid 22 karat gold, in both proof and brilliant uncirculated condition, the coin measures 28.4 mm in diameter and weighs 15.98 grams. Minting is limited to 22,000 proof and 33,000 B. U. The coin is the eighth in the ongoing series celebrating the Chinese Lunar Calendar.

The reverse design, featuring the pig as depicted by Chinese legend, is by Lady Elizabeth Haddon-Cave, the artist/sculptor responsible for designing the reverses of all previous coins in the series. The obverse bears the renowned Arnold Machin portrait of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II which is common to most British and Commonwealth coins since 1968.

The coins, which are legal tender in Hong Kong, have proved immensely popular with collectors since their inception in 1976, offering as they do a unique continuity of theme based on the ancient Chinese Lunar Calendar.

Previous issues are: 1976 - the Dragon; 1977 - the Snake; 1978 - the Horse; 1979 - the Goat; 1980 - the Monkey; 1981 - the Cockerel; and 1982 - the Dog.

For the Chinese, however, this ancient system is much more than just a means of measuring time. It is a tradition embracing mythology and folklore which for thousands of years has been the basis for determining character traits. For instance, those born during the "Year of the Pig", e. g., 1911, 1923, 1935, 1947, 1959, and 1971, are prepared to adopt a cause and fight for it wholeheartedly without fear of the odds against them.

Attractively encapsulated within their own presentation case, prices for the proof and brilliant uncirculated coins are: Proof - \$599 (U. S.), \$749 (CAN). B. U. - \$399 (U. S.), and \$499 (CAN).

Orders and inquiries may be addressed to the British Royal Mint, c/o Barclays Bank, N. A., U. O. Box 2570, New York, NY 10163, or may be made by calling toll-free 1-800-221-1215 (9 - 5 E. S. T.) except New York City residents, 212-784-6430.



# The Short Lived Token War Between Connecticut and New York City

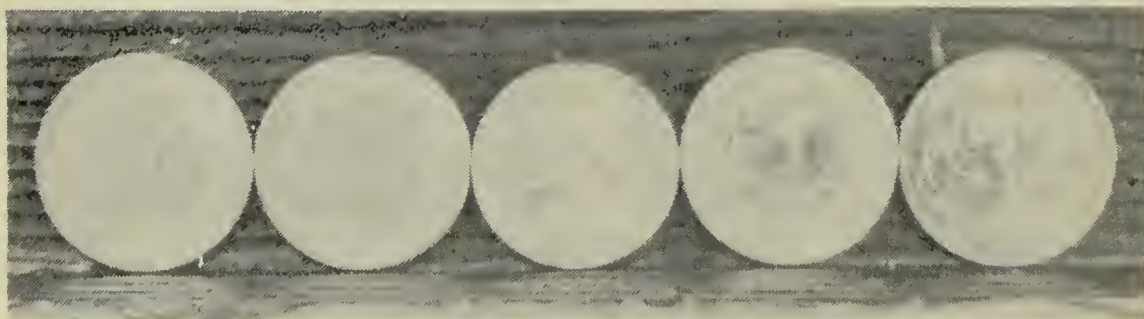
by Samuel W. Johnson Jr.

The Great Token War began in November of 1932 when the Connecticut Turnpike Authority issued a new fare token to be valid at any of the eight toll stations along its route. The tokens were issued with no expiration date to replace the previous system of dated commuter tickets.

The Connecticut Transportation Department confidently ordered 10 million of the tokens at a total cost of \$218,000. Resold to commuters at 35¢ each, or 17½¢ each in rolls of 40, they seemed a logical and efficient way to expedite the payment of fares by turnpike users.

Shortly after their issuance over 2 million had been sold to the commuting public of the Nutmeg State and they indeed seemed to be meeting the expectations of the Transportation Department.

Now the scene shifts to a nearly deserted New York City subway platform. Perhaps it was a street-wise teenaged gang member, or maybe an otherwise respectable Bronx housewife with a taint of larceny in her heart, who fired the first shot in the Great Token War. Whoever and exactly where shall forever remain a mystery to us all. The shifty eyes of the miscreant glanced furtively about, the hand quickly went from pocket or purse to the cold mechanical turnstile, and in an instant the deed was done — a 17½¢ Connecticut Turnpike token had been used in place of a 75¢ New York City Subway Token.



Left to right: New York City subway tokens, Jefferson nickel for size comparison, Connecticut Turnpike tokens.

As with almost any valuable discovery, word spread quickly and Subway authorities failed to be amused by the growing torrent of 17½¢ tokens being used to pay 75¢ fares. In less than a month over 40,000 turnpike tokens had been substituted for 75¢ subway tokens.

Quickly, New York City declared war on the fare cheaters. The city had no choice or millions of dollars in revenue might eventually be lost. The Transit Authority "fine-tuned" subway turnstiles so Connecticut tokens, which were five one thousands of an inch thicker than their New York counterparts, would go into the fare slot only half way.

With the token in only half way, cheaters would then begin to force the tokens into the turnstile. Quickly, "staked-out" Transit Authority police officers would pounce on the briggands and make a prompt arrest. However, since

there were other more urgent areas for valuable police manpower to be applied than nabbing petty chislers, a solution to the problem had to be found quickly.

New York City and Connecticut officials met several times in December and the Turnpike administration agreed to modify their tokens. However, since two million of the turnpike tokens are presently in circulation, New York had better keeps its subway turnstiles "fine-tuned" for the foreseeable future.

---

## Madison Coin Club Announces Changes

The Madison, Wisconsin Coin Club adopted a revised operating format at their initial meeting of 1983. The club, now a half century old, will adopt a merit system, awarding single points for member participation in all club activities. Points will be awarded for (1) attendance at regular meetings, (2) obtaining new members, (3) involvement in club sponsored activities, (4) prompt payment of dues, and (5) member-exhibitors.

Initial success was noted when some 50 members paid their dues prior to January 1st and by attendance of over 30 persons plus guests and two new members at the January meeting, despite inclement Wisconsin winter weather conditions. The program portion of the meeting featured the Madison Crime Prevention Bureau discussing security. There was also an outstanding display of odd and curious moneys of the world.

Club members also approved a "People's Choice" Award for exhibiting at their April 17 annual coin show and sale to be held at Madison's Sheraton Inn & Conference Center. Club members and outsiders will be encouraged to exhibit a single case; the general public in attendance will be asked to vote on the quality and interest of the exhibits. A dozen Midwest dealers have already subscribed to 18 bourse space tables via early response and personnel are expecting a complete sell-out of the 50 table bourse.

Dealers interested in the April 17 show may contact Robert Kraft, GC at 404 Glenway Street, Madison, WI 53711 or by calling 608-233-8823 for bourse information and forms.

Over 2,000 persons attended last year's M. C. C. sponsored show at the same 'under-one-roof' site. Club members attribute their show attendance success to their obtaining local radio spots on call-in type shows and intend to relate this year's show and sale to National Coin Week, which starts the day of the show.

---

## Chicago Show Announces Date Change

The National Numismatic Network Annual Spring Coin Show, which had previously been scheduled for April 22 - 24, has announced new dates of May 13 - 15. Site of the event will be the Ramada O'Hare Inn and the show will feature a major auction by Herbert I. Melnick, Inc.

The Ramada O'Hare is served by courtesy transportation service between the hotel and O'Hare Field.

Paula Farrell, Bourse Chairman for the Chicago show, stated that the new dates were selected to avoid a conflict with the Michigan State Numismatic Society's Annual Spring Convention, to be held on the April dates at the Flint, Michigan Hyatt-Regency Hotel.

Bourse information on the Chicago show is available from Paula Farrell, 1423 West Fullerton Avenue, Chicago, Illinois 60614, or by calling 312-528-3947.



# What Backs Paper Money ?

## An Unusual Case

by Victor C. Seibert

Few people ever stop to think about what commodity really backs the paper money they hold and use in the daily course of their lives. Few ask themselves, "Suppose I would express doubt about accepting this paper money for my wages, what collateral could the issuer of that paper money offer? Would it be gold, silver, brass — or would he say only that it was backed only by confidence or trust?"

There have been instances when paper money was backed by all these and more, but perhaps the most unusual backing for currency has been opium. It is the opium supported paper money of Semiretscheje that is the subject of this article.

Semiretscheje Province as such no longer exists today, having been absorbed and divided into neighboring republics of the Soviet Union. It was located in the Asian portion of the U. S. S. R. in the area south of Lake Balkhash and north of the Chinese border.

It was a mountainous area with fertile valleys populated by nomadic Turic tribesmen who had supported themselves by herding flocks of domesticated animals for centuries past.

Beginning in the eighteenth century Russian power had gradually asserted itself with an advance southward from the borders of Siberia, through the Kazakh steppe to the vast area bounded by the Caspian Sea and the western frontier of China. By the 1860's this expansion had reached its farthest limit through a series of military coups overthrowing local political leaders.

Tashkent was captured in 1865; the emirates of Buchara and Khiva were reduced to vassals of Russia and their territory dismembered; and the emirate of Kokland was finally absorbed into the Russian oblast of Ferena in 1876. The conquest of the fierce Turkmen tribes then followed when they were defeated at the bloody battle of Gok Tepe. Thus, by 1881 Russia's colonial venture was successfully completed. By these conquests Russia was able to secure firm frontiers with Persia (modern Iran) and Afghanistan. Trade, long carried on by local tribes on the desert trails leading to the North Central Asian markets, would in the future be conducted by Russian trains and motorized units.

As long ago as the second century camel caravans and oxen teams had transported silks, spices, tea, and opium to Roman, Western European, and Central Russian markets. This merchants' route was known as the Silk Road and stretched from eastern China to Rome and beyond. This Silk Road led through the Semiretscheje mountains and many of the nomadic inhabitants of the region became familiar with and used the articles the traders brought from the Far East. In this manner they became users of opium as a smoking and tea ingredient and a steady demand for the drug resulted in the area.

The Russian administrators and settlers in the newly conquered land soon realized that they were a small minority among the native peoples. They saw that they were alien to them by race, culture, religion, and political devotion. The Russians knew from their experiences with the Muslims and Kazakh and the Crimean region that they had to be sensitive to the natives perception of

their own needs to avoid an explosive situation by attempting too rapid a consolidation of the Turic tribes of the area with their Russian conquerers.

Russification of the region was therefore relatively flexible and cautious compared to the other parts of the Empire. From this we might expect that any paper money brought into use in the area by the Russians would reflect native concepts of value.

Life after the Russian conquest continued as before. Native life at the village level was left almost intact by the Russians, who allowed the native leaders much autonomy in local affairs and administration. The formal administration of the region was conducted under the overall control of a native Russian Governor-General, but most of his staff and high ranking subordinate officials were local people familiar with the cultural needs of the indigenous population.

The need for paper money as a circulating medium of exchange was created in the area by events associated with the First World War. The area was used for prisoner of war camps and upwards of 32,000 enemy prisoners were maintained in camps in the region. With the outbreak of the Russian Revolution and the collapse of the central government, the care and feeding of these men became the practical responsibility of the local administration.

In the Civil War which was an outgrowth of the Revolution, Red and White Army forces clashed in the region and demanded food and support from the natives. In addition, a series of unfavorable weather and harvest conditions resulted in widespread losses of the sheep and cattle herds which were a vital part of the local economy.

By 1918 the Semireschepe government preceived the need to issue its own circulating medium of exchange in an effort to provide some economic framework and alleviate the commercial chaos which arose out of the Revolution



Face - Opium backed Semiretscheje Republic paper money.



Back - Opium backed Semiretscheje Republic paper money.



and subsequent Civil War. With limited traditional resources such as gold or silver to form the basis of a medium of exchange, and anxious to avoid the issuance of a mere fiat currency which would quickly become nearly worthless, the local administration decided that the most appropriate substance to back its issue would be one which was highly regarded and much sought after by the native population — opium.

In 1918 opium backed notes were issued in 10, 25, 100, and 250 ruble denominations. The notes all bear a legend on the back that they are backed by opium in storage. For example, the 25 ruble note illustrated bears the notation that 25 rubles worth of opium is held in storage as security for the value of the note itself. Storage in this instance does not refer to a vault, as one would expect for gold or silver, but rather to the heavily guarded warehouses which were the official storage places.

The note measures 95 mm x 135 mm and is a brownish red on white paper. The obverse shows the coat of arms with the Turkish crescent moon, a double headed eagle, signature, serial number, and denomination. The reverse shows the date, denomination, and a rising sun.

Backed by opium, it is an example of government sanctioned currency recognizing the unique cultural conditions and economic realities of the area it was intended to serve.

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## A. N. A. Offers Summer Seminar Scholarships

For the 11th year, the American Numismatic Assn. announces that it has scholarships to pay the essential costs for a limited number of deserving youths to its Summer Seminars. This year's 15th Summer Seminar will be held in two locations: July 10 - 16 at Colorado College, ANA Headquarters, in Colorado Springs, and August 7 - 13 at the University of California, in Los Angeles.

Each year, a number of scholarships are donated by friends of the Association who take this means of supporting young collectors. The youths, 11 - 17 years, who qualify and receive a scholarship will be sent round-trip airline tickets tourist class, between their home-town airport and the seminar location, and their tuition fees will be covered by the sponsors. These fees include room and board at the two locations.

ANA Governor Florence Schook has

announced that Y. N.'s who wish to apply for a scholarship, with parental approval, should write to her for an application form at P. O. Box 2014, Livonia, Michigan 48154. Completed applications must be returned not later than May 10. This deadline is essential so that final arrangements can be made between Mrs. Schook, ANA Headquarters and the applicant.

Any dealer or other ANA member who wishes to sponsor a deserving young collector should contact Florence Schook, Chairlady of the Y. N. Program, or the ANA Headquarters, Executive Vice President, P. O. Box 2366, Colorado Springs, CO 80901.

Sponsorship of each young numismatist has been set at \$600. Being a contribution to a non-profit educational organization, it is deductible for Federal Income Tax purposes, the ANA says. Sponsors will receive from the American Numismatic Association an official receipt and their names will be published in *The Numismatist* and elsewhere.



The Dearborn, Michigan Hyatt-Regency Hotel will be the site of the Central States Numismatic Society's 44th Anniversary Convention. The dramatic atrium lobby of the hotel is shown here.

## N. O. I. S. E. Sets Summer Show Dates

The 4th Annual N. O. I. S. E. Coin Convention will be held Friday, Saturday and Sunday, June 24 - 26, at the Rosemont, Illinois Exposition Center, located five minutes from O'Hare Airport near Chicago.

Organized by Joseph Irmen, the N.

O. I. S. E. show has become in the space of only a few years one of the larger coin shows in the United States, and with its airport location attracts many of the more well known dealers from throughout the country.

Dealers interested in reserving a table at the show should contact Joseph Irmen at P. O. Box 424, Wood Dale, Illinois 60191, or call 312-980-3200.



# CENTRAL STATES NUMISMATIC SOCIETY 44th ANNIVERSARY CONVENTION

APRIL 7 - 10, 1983

HYATT REGENCY HOTEL — DEARBORN, MICHIGAN

HOST: DEARBORN COIN CLUB

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE OF DAILY EVENTS — (Consult Official Convention Program for possible changes. Because of early deadline for publication, society meetings are not listed.)

## WEDNESDAY, APRIL 6

- 12:00 noon — Bowers & Merena auction lot viewing opens.
- 12:00 noon — Security room opens.

## THURSDAY, APRIL 7 — PNG DAY

- 8:00 a.m. — Convention registration opens for pre-registrants, Exhibit Hall Foyer.
  - Bourse room opens to PNG dealers only, Exhibit Hall.
  - Security room opens to PNG dealers.
- 10:00 a.m. — PNG bourse opens to public, Exhibit Hall.
  - Security room opens to convention participants.
- 12:00 noon — Exhibit room opens to exhibitors only.
- 5:00 p.m. — Bourse room closes.
- 6:00 p.m. — PNG membership meeting.
  - Exhibit room closes.
- 8:00 p.m. — PNG Cocktail Reception.
- 11:00 p.m. — Security room closes.

## FRIDAY, APRIL 8

- 7:00 a.m. — Bourse room opens to participating dealers, Exhibit Hall.
  - Security room opens to participating dealers.
  - Registration opens, Exhibit Hall Foyer.
- 8:00 a.m. — Exhibit rooms opens to exhibitors, Meeting Rooms B, C, D.
- 9:45 a.m. — Ribbon Cutting Ceremony, Exhibit Hall Entrance.
- 10:00 a.m. — Bourse room opens to public, Exhibit Hall.
  - Security room opens to convention participants.
- 11:00 a.m. — Hospitality room opens.
- 11:30 a.m. — Luncheon tour. (By pre-registration only for men, women and juniors. Bus leaves from hotel lobby exit.)
- 12:00 noon — Exhibit room opens to the public.
  - CSNS banquet reservation deadline.
- 1:00 p.m. — Auction by Bowers & Merena, first session.
- 4:00 p.m. — Hospitality room closes.
- 6:00 p.m. — Educational forum.
  - Exhibit room closes.
- 6:30 p.m. — Auction by Bowers & Merena, second session.
- 7:30 p.m. — Registration closes. (No public entry to bourse room.)
- 8:00 p.m. — Bourse room closes.
- 9:00 p.m. — Security room closes.

## SATURDAY, APRIL 9

- 8:30 a.m. — CSNS Board breakfast meeting.
- 9:00 a.m. — Bourse room opens to participating dealers, Exhibit Hall.
  - Security room opens.
  - Registration opens, Exhibit Hall Foyer.
- 10:00 a.m. — Bourse room opens to public, Exhibit Hall.
  - Exhibit room opens.
  - ANACS.
- 11:30 a.m. — CSNS General Membership Meeting.
- 1:00 p.m. — Auction by Bowers & Merena, third session.
- 3:00 p.m. — Hospitality room closes.
- 5:30 p.m. — Registration closes. (No public entry to bourse room.)
- 6:00 p.m. — Bourse room closes.
  - Exhibit room closes.
- 6:30 p.m. — Security room closes.
- 7:00 p.m. — CSNS "Dutch Treat" Cocktail Hour.
- 8:00 p.m. — CSNS Awards Banquet and Dance.

## SUNDAY, APRIL 10

- 8:30 a.m. — CSNS Board breakfast meeting.
- 9:00 a.m. — Bourse room opens to participating dealers, Exhibit Hall.
  - Security room opens.
  - Registration opens, Exhibit Hall Foyer.
- 10:00 a.m. — Bourse room opens to the public, Exhibit Hall.
  - Exhibit room opens.
  - ANACS.
- 11:00 a.m. — Hospitality room opens.
  - Time with ANACS (ANA slide presentation).
- 3:00 p.m. — Hospitality room closes.
  - Exhibit room closes.
- 3:30 p.m. — Registration closes. (No public entry to bourse room.)
- 4:00 p.m. — Bourse room closes.
  - CSNS 44th Anniversary Convention closes.

(HOPE YOU ENJOYED YOUR VISIT TO HENRY FORD'S HOMETOWN !)

NOTICE: Security room privileges will be available free to one member of each firm having a table at the convention. A nominal fee of \$5.00 will be charged all others. Security room will remain open until 10:00 a.m. on Monday, April 11, 1983.



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# My Price Was 107 Bucks or Dollars

by Samuel W. Johnson, Jr.

Hello, friends and fellow collectors. How often have you heard the following statements or something very similar? (Many times?) "Hey, pal. Loan me 10 bucks until payday." "I'll bet ya' 20 bucks that the Dodgers beat the Yankees in the World Series." "Some professional athletes make a million bucks a year."

Do you know why some of us say "bucks" instead of dollars? The author conducted several mini-surveys and asked more than 100 people just why we says bucks instead of dollars. One survey was conducted at the 1981 Illinois State Convention. Others were conducted at the local pool hall, the author's place of work, and at the 1982 Chicago International Coin Fair.

The results of these surveys were nearly identical in that a large majority of people and numismatists did not know why they used the term "bucks." Less than 12 percent were able to give the correct answer! This gave the author added incentive to write this educational article.

This article features a documented true story and an unquestionable reference as to why many of us say bucks instead of dollars. Although four accounts of the story revealed some differences, the basic facts were nearly identical. Eventually, all information in this article was gleaned from the documented actual records. Here is the story.

History reveals that George Rogers Clark and his 150 to 180 man "army", nicknamed "The Long Knives", won possession of the Illinois Territory from the British in the years 1778-79. (The nickname of this army came from the fact that each man carried a very large knife for possible hand-to-hand combat.) The men in this army were "hand picked" by Clark for their skill with weapons, their endurance, and physical strength. Nearly all were expert riflemen and, friends, you would not have wanted to "knife fight" with any of them. Many of these men were experienced Indian fighters and ex-revolutionary soldiers.

The Long Knives were highly respected and feared by Indians, settlers, and British and French soldiers. Bluntly stated, the army was a collection of very tough men. "Man for man" it was a highly efficient force in 1778. The majority of these soldiers obviously would have been "green berets" in today's army.

When traveling with Clark, quite a few of these soldiers liked the southwestern Illinois territory. After their military service was over, as many as 40 of them returned to make their home in this area. One of their first settlements, started about April of 1782, was near a large fresh water spring named "La Belle Fontaine." (The French translation is "the beautiful fountain.") This spring is located a few hundred yards south of present day Waterloo, Illinois, in Monroe County, and about 25 miles south of St. Louis' Gateway Arch.

Many years after its formation, this early settlement was harrassed by Indians. One incredibly spectacular experience concerned a man named William Biggs. Highly regarded at age 23, Biggs had served as a Lieutenant in Clark's army. He returned in 1784 to settle near La Belle Fontaine. In this new land, Biggs spent the next few years trying to make a good life for his wife and children.



This 10 foot diameter pool of water is La Belle Fontaine in the year 1982. The large sunken barrel in the center of the pool is the mouth of the spring. Noted on maps of the early 1700's as "a great spring," it obviously still is! Unable to properly measure the flow of the water, the author estimates it at several thousand gallons per day because a small ever-flowing creek is created. Clark and his army undoubtedly drank water here when traveling from Kaskaskia to Cahokia.

On March 27, 1788 Biggs and a friend named John Vallis had decided to go to Cahokia, Illinois and sell or trade many beaver skins that they had accumulated. About 7:00 a.m. that morning, only about five miles north of La Belle Fontaine, the two men were casually riding along on their horses when suddenly they heard two rifle shots. Both men looked to their right because it sounded as if that was where the shots originated. Seeing nothing, the men cautiously rode on. Both concluded that hunters were in the area.

A short distance ahead, as they rode into a woods, Biggs looked to his left and saw a blood curdling sight. Sixteen Indians were standing side-by-side about 40 yards away. All had rifles pointed at the two men, and their fingers were on the triggers.



Noted Waterloo historian Mr. Alfred Meuller is standing near a remnant of the old road. Barely skirting La Belle Fontaine, this is the road Biggs and Vallis traveled the fateful morning of March 27, 1788. Only about five miles north of this spot is where the two men encountered the sixteen armed Indians.

Biggs shouted an alarm to Vallis and both men leaned down low on their horse's mane. As they began to whip their horses into a sprint, all of the Indians fired nearly in unison. What followed, obviously, was a hail of very



accurate rifle fire. Because Biggs and his horse were nearest to the Indians, somewhat shielding Vallis and his mount, his horse was hit with at least four bullets. As many as five more bullets pierced the large heavy coat Biggs was wearing.

Unbelievably and miraculously Biggs was not wounded! The bullets had pierced his coat in such places as the baggy sleeves, the large collar, and the part that hung down by his legs. His fatally wounded horse "reared up" and then began to step sideways. All of the Indians had laid their rifles down and, screaming and shouting, with upraised tomahawks were charging toward Biggs. During this time, Biggs and his saddle slid off of the horse. His rifle slipped off his shoulder to the ground. Riding a fast horse, John Vallis quickly escaped.

Biggs' horse then began to uncontrollably sprint with Biggs desperately holding onto the horse's mane. Repeatedly, he tried to get back on the horse but could not. After about 30 yards, Biggs let go of the mane, fell to the ground and began running. At this point, the Indians were within 15 yards. Biggs' horse ran 600 yards and fell dead. Biggs took off running like he was 'shot out of a cannon.' In the foot race that followed, Biggs badly outran the Indians for the first few hundred yards. In fact, twelve of the sixteen Indians quickly gave up the chase.

However, after about 400 yards, the other four Indians caught him. Stunningly, the first to catch him made no attempt to kill him. Instead, this Indian rubbed the handle of his tomahawk from Biggs' shoulder down to his hand. This act signified to the other Indians that Biggs was not to be killed.

Biggs would later write in a letter, "I run about foure hundred yards before they eatched me and I believe I should a cleared ought frome them if I had not bin so heavy cloathed." You must excuse the mis-spelled words, friends! In 1788, this was A- English on the frontier.

It is unclear why the Indians didn't kill Biggs. Badly outnumbering him, they could have done so because Biggs was unarmed. Perhaps they were amazed that he was not wounded in their hail of rifle fire. Perhaps, because Biggs was such a large man (estimated 6' 8" tall, more or less, and 200 pounds plus) they wished to later "show off" by saying, "Look at the huge white man we captured." Biggs certainly may have been one of the largest men that the Indians had ever seen! It is obvious that the Indians originally intended to kill him. Just why they didn't remains a mystery.

Riding a beautiful elegant horse, which was not wounded, John Vallis escaped. However, Vallis was painfully and seriously wounded in the upper thigh. When the four Indians captured Biggs, Vallis had "doubled back" and was only 100 yards away. His horse snorting and prancing on the road, Vallis, with rifle in his hand, observed the scene. Although armed, there are two obvious reasons why Vallis did not interfere. First, he probably was unable to attack because of his wound. Second, he saw that Biggs had not been killed and obviously did not want to further endanger his friend's life.

A few minutes later, when he reached "Piggotts Fort," the nearly unconscious Vallis had to be lifted from his horse and carried to a bed. That Vallis waited for Biggs under these conditions, was definitely a heroic act! Vallis, who had also served as a Long Knife, certainly was a true friend of Biggs. Sadly, these two men were never to see each other again! Because of his wound, John Vallis died six weeks later, probably of infection and gangrene.

When Vallis reached the fort, a small cannon was fired to alert nearby settlers that Indians were in the area. This scared the Indians who had captured Biggs, and they immediately began a hurried march to their village in Indiana, covering about six miles in the next hour. Another actual quote from the previously mentioned letter that Biggs wrote: "We run in a pretty smart trot of a run of four or six miles."

Biggs' hands had been tied behind his back and, with a rope around his neck, he was pulled along and forced to keep up with this fast pace. In this era it was common knowledge that if Indian prisoners could not keep pace they would be killed. There were no exceptions to this rule!

However, as a member of Clark's army Biggs had previously traveled long distances on foot, sometimes going several days with very little or no food. Have any of you ever tried running or jogging with your hands tied behind your back? Of course not, but it is very difficult because your balance is impaired. Even under these conditions, Biggs kept pace!

By 10:00 p.m. that night, the group had traveled about 40 miles. Below is a dramatic account of Biggs' experience during the trip to Indiana. Remember, the group was on foot! First day - covered about 40 miles; no food. Second day - covered about 35 miles; no food. Third day - covered about 30 miles; no food. Fourth day - covered about 25 miles; Indians killed a large, fat duck and roasted it, which Biggs totally devoured! Biggs had traveled about 130 miles with nothing to eat! This has to be one of the most incredible displays of physical endurance ever recorded.

Fifth day - covered about 30 miles; no food. Biggs slept very little this night. His arms, legs, hands, and feet were badly swollen and inflamed from being tied up each night. Sixth day - covered about 30 miles; no food. Seventh day - covered about 25 miles; Indians killed a deer, ample food. Another 85 miles without anything to eat! Eighth day - covered about 25 miles; no food. Ninth day - covered about 15 miles; reached Indian hunting camp. Plenty of meat, hominy, and sugar to eat. The group was very hungry and "ate like hungry dogs." They had covered 255 miles in eight and one-half days.

Several days during the trip, the Indians made "soup" of various items. But, because the Indians cut up and added partially uncleaned intestines of animals, Biggs wouldn't eat any of it. This "soup" had an unusual green color. Can you blame him for not eating? However, Clark certainly made no mistake judging Biggs ten years before. Biggs had to possess tremendous physical and mental strength. His endurance was almost beyond belief!

At one of the Indian villages later, Biggs was untied and told that he could move about freely as long as he didn't leave the village. He was given better clothing, plenty to eat, and comfortable living quarters. By appropriate ceremony, he was even adopted into the Kickapoo tribe. Undoubtedly, the Indians highly respected Biggs because of his size, remarkable strength, and endurance. The Indians greatly praised his sprinting speed, before capture, while so heavily clothed! His ability to "stay with them" on the 255 mile journey with very little food was also undoubtedly discussed. They had found out that this big white man was extremely tough.

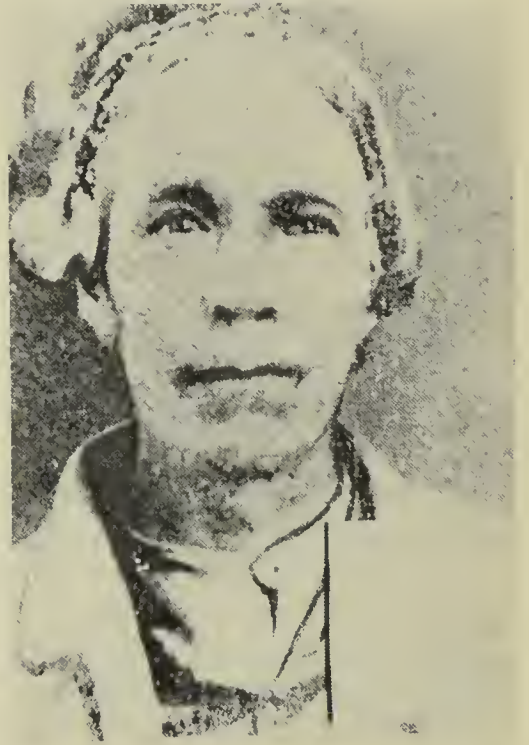
The Indians continued this remarkable treatment by insisting that Biggs take an Indian wife! For several days, a "very fair and shapely" 18-year-old Indian squaw followed Biggs about or stood just outside of his living quarters. The author believes that the Indians had visions of many future braves who



would be 6' 8" tall and possess Biggs' other physical qualities. However, Biggs remained faithful to his wife at La Belle Fontaine.

Biggs was at the Indian village for about three weeks when a French trader came to trade with the Indians. Biggs persuaded this trader to obtain his freedom by purchasing him from the Indians. With several other area traders' help, and after a little haggling, this was done. Biggs was free! Later, in Illinois, Biggs repaid these traders.

William Biggs in about 1794. From a distance of only 40 yards, the hail of Indian rifle fire riddled his horse and coat. Miraculously, however, he was not wounded. His over-all experience with the fierce Kickapoo Indians in 1788 must rank as one of the most spectacular in the annals of frontier America. As revealed in this article, Biggs later became very prominent in the early Illinois Territory. This photograph was reproduced from a portrait painting of Mr. Biggs and is a courtesy of the Illinois State Historical Society.



Later, in the letter written to his brother about his experience and how much the traders paid to obtain his freedom, Biggs wrote, "MY PRICE WAS 107 BUCKS OR DOLLARS." When Biggs wrote this, he was referring to 107 male deerskins or buckskins. Although the Indians did not receive the actual skins, they received the equivalent in trade.

The author believes that this written statement and the following theories are overwhelmingly conclusive evidence why we say bucks today instead of dollars. By the way, Biggs' entire letter still exists today, and must be considered a historical treasure! "Buckskins" was a valuable item to these early settlers because clothes and many other items could be made from it. A "Buck" was as valuable as a dollar to these early settlers because very little money was available in this era. Bucks were easily traded for other needed items such as tools, powder, guns, etc. If asked, trading post owners would undoubtedly frequently quote prices in bucks.

Therefore, sentences such as, "How many bucks do you want for that," have endured from frontier times until today. Obviously, more than 200 years ago a buck and a dollar became related because both were valuable items. One of the definitions of 'bucks' in Webster's Dictionary is "slang for a dollar." Thanks to historical items such as William Biggs' letter, we today know why.

Hey, friends, we gotta' get back to the beautiful, happy ending to this article! A few weeks after obtaining his freedom, Biggs found passage on a flatboat going down the Wabash River to Vincennes, Indiana. At Vincennes, a message was relayed overland to La Belle Fontaine that Biggs was alive,

well, and on his way home. Everyone was stunned by the message because they thought that Biggs was dead.

By flatboat, Biggs traveled to the Ohio River and then up the Mississippi to Kaskaskia. When he arrived at the Kaskaskia boat dock, his two brothers, George and Thomas, were waiting. They brought an extra horse and rifle. This must have been a joyous reunion. However, the best reunion was yet to come! Ten weeks after his capture, Biggs was once again home at La Belle Fontaine. He was back with his wife, Nancy, and children!

Mr. Glenn Zanders is holding 'a couple of bucks' at his fur and sporting goods company, which is located near Baldwin, Illinois. Mr. Zanders is the largest skin, root, firearms, and ammunition dealer in southern Illinois, and is one of the largest fur dealers. His firm is located only 19 miles from La Belle Fontaine. The price paid for raw deerskins today (January, 1982) was \$6.50 each.



#### **Author's Notations of Further Research on William Biggs**

Biggs became very prominent after his unbelievably spectacular experience. He was the first sheriff (1790-1798) of St. Clair County, Illinois Territory; was elected to two terms (1805-1809) in the legislature of the Indiana Territory; and was elected in 1812 as a member of the legislature or senate of the Illinois Territory. He also, for many years, was a judge of the Court of Common Pleas and a Justice of the Peace.

He also became a major landowner in southwestern Illinois, owning nearly 4,000 acres at one time. At the request of the Congress of the United States, Biggs went to Washington, D. C. in 1826 and gave a narration of his experiences with George Rogers Clark. His narration also included the 1788 Kickapoo Indian experience featured in this article. He received a standing ovation when finished and was later awarded three full sections of land by Congress.

When Illinois became a State in 1818, Biggs was narrowly defeated (by 42 votes) in his race to become a State Senator. This marked an end to his nearly 28 continuous years of service to the people of the Illinois Territory.

Biggs' last years of life were undoubtedly spent enjoying his children, grandchildren, and reminiscing about his very worthwhile life. He had to think many times, "I did it all and have no regrets." This distinguished American died in 1827, thirty-nine years after his freedom was purchased for 107 buck-



skins (in trade). Despite the assistance of a small army of searchers, the author was unable to locate the grave of William Biggs. Reportedly, the grave is located near "Peter's Station," which is near Southern Illinois University at Edwardsville, Illinois.

The author strongly believes that should his grave be located in the future, a large informative plaque, mounted on a large rock, should be placed by the grave of William Biggs. I respectfully request that historical societies from local, state and national levels remember this request. It is the least we current Americans can do for this distinguished, prominent, heroic patriot of long ago.

Not wishing to "strand readers in the past," the author will conclude this article and "skyrocket" everyone back into the present with the following.



In addition to being born in 1977, these two young ladies have something else in common. Both are eighth generation direct descendants of William Biggs. Tracy Martin (left) lives in New Jersey and Jennifer Carr (right) lives in Illinois. The author sent a photograph of William Biggs to the mothers of these attractive girls, and was extremely pleased to have located the previously unknown painting. Undoubtedly, the photograph is now considered a treasure to these families. A stunning point to ponder is that had William Biggs been killed in the hail of Indian rifle fire in 1788, Jennifer and Tracy would not exist. They are descendants of William Biggs' daughter, who was born in 1795 — seven years afterwards.

#### ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

As an amateur author, I must compliment the following people who, without exception, did everything possible to help me with this article. I thank each of them, for without their assistance this article would not be as complete as it is or may never have been written.

1. The late Mr. John Miller and his book "Legends and Lore of Southern Illinois," printed in 1963.

2. Mr. Carl Baldwin, of Belleville, Illinois, and his book "Echoes of Their Voices," printed in 1978.
  3. The Illinois State Historical Society and Mary Michals, Curator of Prints and Photographs, Springfield, Illinois.
  4. Alfred Mueller, Marge Adams, the Monroe County Historical Society, and the Peterstown Heritage Society, Waterloo, Illinois.
  5. Mr. Glenn Zanders, Baldwin, Illinois.
  6. John and Mary Ellen Young, genealogists, and Kay Jetton, historian, of Marissa, Illinois.
  7. The book, "History of St. Clair County, Illinois." Originally printed in 1881, reprinted in 1977 with additions.
  8. The book, "The Making of Illinois," by Mather, printed in 1915.
  9. Mr. Thomas E. Maziarz, manager of the microfilm records department at the St. Clair County Courthouse in Belleville, Illinois. Mr. Biggs' signature was obtained from microfilmed court records, page 85, April, 1811 term of court.
  10. Photography by Lovita Ingram, Percy, Illinois, and the Illinois State Historical Society.
  11. Sunrise Publishing Co., St. Louis, Missouri, and President Edith Wood for granting permission to use small parts of "Echoes of Their Voices," a copyrighted book.
  12. Mr. Harry Sampson, Kenneth Sampson, Kevin Sampson, and Carl Ropac of Edwardsville, Illinois, for enduring the briars, brambles, vines, spiders and their webs, and 95 degree temperature while helping the author search for William Biggs' grave.
  13. The Madison County Historical Society and Assistant Librarian Cynthia Hill Longwisch, Edwardsville, Illinois.
  14. The Madison County Genealogical Society, and Mary Jane Gass and Dan Theurer.
  15. Mrs. William Carr, LaGrange, Illinois, and Mrs. Ronald Martin, Pine Hills, New Jersey, and especially Mr. R. J. Flygare, Geneva, Illinois.
- 

## Royal Mint Strikes One Gold Proof Crown for Each of Falkland Island's 150 Years As British Colony

The British Royal Mint has announced that it has been authorized by the Falkland Islands Legislative Council to strike a limited number of Commemorative Crowns in gold and silver proof and in cupro-nickel brilliant uncirculated condition, in celebration of the one hundred and fiftieth anniversary of the Falkland Islands as a British Crown Colony. The decision to limit the gold proof issue to 150 with only 30 coins initially available to

North American Collectors, adds a special air of excitement to this historic new issue.

All three coins share the same design features. The 22 karat gold proof coins have a weight of 47.54 grams, while the sterling silver proof (limited minting of only 10,000) and the B. U. in cupro-nickel (limit 50,000) each weigh 28.28 grams. The common diameter of the coins is 38.61 mm. The relief designs of the proof are struck





in frosted finish providing a vivid contrast to the superb mirror-like finish of the background. The coins will be legal tender in the Falkland Islands.

The obverse bears the Arnold Machin portrait of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, common to all Falkland Island coins, with the value 50 pence at its base. The reverse design, modeled by Royal Mint engraver Robert Elderton, depicts "H. M. S. Desire", together with the inscription, "Falkland Islands 1833-1983." It was aboard the "Desire" that Captain John Davis made the first recorded sighting of the Islands on August 14, 1592.

The ship was caught in a storm and chanced upon "certain isles never before discovered by any known relation." Davis never landed. It was nearly 100 years before another Englishman, Captain Strong, did so in January 1690 naming the Islands after treasurer of the Royal Navy, Viscount Falkland. However, it is the "Desire" that is remembered and featured in both the Falkland Island's Coat of Arms and the Colony's flag.

The Falkland Island's past is full of colorful history, as country after country used the Islands as a base from which to operate their whaling ships. Of particular interest to numismatists is the fact that of all the currency which found its way to the Falklands, it was Britain's large Silver Crown

that enjoyed special popularity. Indeed, *The Times* reported that about 2000 pounds in Crowns were sent each year to the Islands where, "the whalers, English, Germans, Swedes and Americans, assemble to pass the winter in harbour and among them the only acceptable currency is the English five-shilling piece." British coins continued to dominate the Falkland's currency, but it was not until as late as 1974 that the Islands adopted a currency of their own, choosing the same decimal system as the United Kingdom; 100 pence = one pound.

The proof coins struck to commemorate this important anniversary are displayed in a protective acrylic capsule and presented in an attractive presentation case, while the B. U. coins have been specially packed in an informative and colorful presentation wallet.

Prices for the respective Commemorative Crowns are: Gold Proof, \$1599 (U. S.) \$1999 (CAN). Silver Proof, \$49 (U. S.) \$63 (CAN). Cupro-nickel, \$5.75 (U. S.) \$8.00 (CAN). Minimum order, \$11.50 (U. S.) \$16.00 (CAN).

Orders and inquiries may be addressed to the British Royal Mint, c/o Barclays Bank, N. A., P. O. Box 2570, New York, NY 10163, or may be made by calling toll-free 1-800-221-1215 (9 - 5 E. S. T.) except New York City residents, 212-784-6430.

# A CAPSULE HISTORY of DEARBORN

by Jean H. Hatch

Accustomed as we are today to the challenges, trials, and pleasures of life in our highly industrialized city, we find it hard to picture in our minds what this area was like less than 200 years ago. The place, where the City of Dearborn was to grow, was ten miles out in the wilderness from the small town of Detroit. The earth was still covered with a dense virgin forest, occasionally broken by "oak openings", small areas where the trees thinned out into meadows dotted with oak trees. The Rouge River ran clear and sparkling through the forest, jumping with fish. The first inhabitants, who had used the products of the forest for thousands of years, were still present. Tribes of the Woodland Indians camped along the banks of the Rouge, and the canoes of the Ottawa, Potawatomi, Sauk-Fox and Chippewa were seen regularly.

## Early Settlement

The first Europeans to come were the French. They began moving out along the rivers from Detroit in the 1780's and the Rouge River was, for them, a highway. They would claim a few hundred feet of river frontage, giving them access by water to the markets of Detroit, and then extend their farms miles deep into the forest; hence, the expression "ribbon farms." According to our present knowledge, gained in a continuing program of research, the Potawatomi Indians gave gifts of land to certain Frenchmen in this general area in the year 1780. The first of these settlers within the present day limits of Dearborn was the family of Pierre Dumais, who cleared a farm in the wilderness near what today is Morningside Street in the extreme southeastern part of town. The year was 1786. In 1790, the Cissne family also settled near what today is the Ford Rouge Plant. Other pioneers soon joined them, erected cabins, cleared land for cultivation, and laid out their claims.

The influence of the new, young United States began to be felt, as the realization spread that the vast northwest territory was opening up for settlement. A slow influx of Americans, English, Scottish and Irish began. The first roads were constructed, usually following earlier Indian trails. Dearborn's main street, Michigan Avenue, was one of the principle ones. Originally the Sauk-Fox Trail, which wound westward toward the foot of Lake Michigan, became known as the Chicago Road and was a main artery of travel during pioneer times, as it is today.

Settlement began in earnest in the 1820's after the completion of the Erie Canal (1825). This waterway gave access to the Territory of Michigan in a way unknown before. Settlers from the east and Europe could now travel to Michigan entirely on water. They came up the Hudson River to Albany, over the Erie Canal to Buffalo, across Lake Erie by steamboat and up the Detroit River. The trip was safer, quicker, cheaper and less grueling than overland travel and the new canal offered a quick and easy route to the eastern markets, which the settlers desperately needed.

## The U. S. Detroit Arsenal

Part of the property off the Chicago Road had been put aside at an early date as a military reserve. In the early 1830's Detroit's population had grown and the Arsenal located there became a source of danger in the eyes of many



Detroit citizens. This situation brought a military establishment to the tiny settlement of Dearbornville, as it was then called. In 1833 a new U. S. Arsenal was started, and was completed in 1839.

The Arsenal, comprised of eleven buildings and surrounded by a high wall, was built to furnish arms and ammunition to the then existent "western frontier" and though the Arsenal itself was never a large military installation, its effects upon the tiny community were immense. It was no longer only a farming center. Instead, with the erection of the Arsenal, the activities of the hamlet encompassed a mixture of farming, industry and services performed for the military. The villagers soon became used to the booming of the cannon. Men who had tilled the soil for a livelihood engaged in the occupations of brick-maker, tradesman, blacksmith and saloon-keeper. Instead of remote farms and distant neighbors, many now lived in town, or combined farming a small acreage with a job in the village.

The Arsenal was staffed at the peak of its activities with less than 75 men and officers. However, during the Civil War it became a training center for recruits, a rendezvous for soldiers of the North's rapidly expanding army. Tents were pitched within the Arsenal's walls to provide temporary shelter for the "Boys in Blue." These men were drilled at the Arsenal and then sent South to the battle lines. After the war the pace of life slackened in Dearbornville, and its military atmosphere waned with the closing of the old Arsenal in 1875. Through the years it had served as an economic nucleus for the growing village, its social center and the source of much excitement in the days of slow communication and transportation.

### **"The Bark Covered House"**

In 1876, during the centennial year of the United States of America, one of Dearbornville's prominent citizens wrote a book. This little volume, "The Bark Covered House," told the story of the Nowlin family from eastern New York, who traveled to Dearbornville via the Erie Canal and the steamboat "Michigan." They settled in the lonely forest in 1834, when the last few Indians were still around, saw the building of the Arsenal, cut wood for the first trains and gradually prospered in their new home. Many others followed the Nowlins and settled in what today is the western part of Dearborn. Among them were the Pardees, the Snows, the Gulleys, the Maxwells, the Rosses, the Haighs and the Howards. William Nowlin's story has since been republished by the Dearborn Historical Commission, and can be purchased at the Dearborn Historical Museum. It is used today by colleges in this area as the one best source of pioneer history in this part of the Middle West.

### **Dearborn — Village and Township**

The village and township to which these settlers came bore an illustrious name. They were named for Major General Henry Dearborn (1751-1829), a patriot who played many important roles in the early years of the United States. He was a physician who answered the call to the service of his country as a Minuteman, then as an officer in George Washington's army during the American Revolution. Later he served for eight years as the Secretary of War in the cabinet of President Thomas Jefferson. During the War of 1812, he was the Senior Major General in charge of the army. Later he served as the U. S. Minister to Portugal. He was well known across the United States and counties, forts, streets and a river were named for him, in grateful memory of his service to the nation.



**THE COMMANDANT'S QUARTERS OF THE  
DEARBORN HISTORICAL MUSEUM**

The early population of this rural community was never large. However, the surrounding countryside was well settled and as a result Old Dearbornville had the appearance of a thriving community. It was a famous stagecoach stop on the Chicago Road. One of the hostelries along the route was the Ten Eyck Tavern, which stood near the present bridge which crosses the Rouge River on Michigan Avenue. Conrad "Coon" Ten Eyck, the tavern's proprietor, became known far and wide for his meals and his frontier hospitality. Drovers, tradesmen, travelers, stagecoach drivers and passengers all stopped at his well-known inn and sometimes were offered "wolverine steak" for supper.

The coming of the railroad in 1837 brought Dearbornville its second major change. Travel by stage slackened. Hotels near the railroad station took the place of the stagecoach stops along the Chicago Road. At Dearbornville, a railroad woodyard was established, where cord wood for the wood-burning locomotives was stacked. The railroad was to furnish employment to many Dearborn residents during the next century. The wealth of trees was beginning to disappear as roads and fields were cleared, making way for the advance of pioneer settlers. A number of excavations were made to get clay for making brick. This industry is Dearborn's oldest, and still thrives today.



Dearborn Township was established in 1833, but earlier this area had been part of Bucklin Township. This large piece of territory was later to be broken into four parts, comprising Dearborn, Redford, Nankin and Livonia Townships. The first election for which the figures are recorded in Bucklin Township took place July 9, 1827. It was held to elect a territorial delegate to the Congress of the United States. In the minutes of the township are recorded the names of those who governed the early hamlet. Appearing frequently in the records is



**DEARBORN CITY HALL**

much information concerning these people — the extent of their farms, the location of their homes and their participation in local affairs. Among the offices were those of "pathmaster" and "fence viewer." These early records, recording the slow growth of the village and township during the 19th century, are today part of the Dearborn Historical Commission's collection of local historical records, and are available for the use of the public at the Dearborn Historical Museum's research facility.

### **Springwells — Village and Township**

The early settlement in the eastern portion of what is now Dearborn was called Springwells. It had been famous for its numerous springs since the earliest settlement in the Detroit area. This village was possibly established earlier than the one at Dearbornville. As Detroit grew westward, it absorbed territory from Springwells Township, which was established in 1818. Development in the area was slow. Springwells was made up chiefly of large farms, some of which fronted on the Chicago Road. The Schaefer Six Mile House stood near what is today the intersection of Michigan Avenue and Schaefer Road, most inviting to the weary traveler who had struggled by horse or ox-cart out

the muddy Chicago Road. To the northwest, near the intersection of Ford Road and Greenfield, was a small community called the Scotch Settlement. The settlers were mostly Scottish or Scotch Irish descent. Henry Ford (1863-1947), the great industrialist, was born on a farm in this locality. Much of the rest of the land was taken by industrious German Catholics, as the street names of our town indicate.

From the records of Springwells Township we draw information concerning the impact of the Civil War in the area. Funds were raised by volunteer subscription to pay the customary bounty of \$100 to each man who enlisted. At the end of 1862, the records show that the bounty fund of this township totalled more than \$8,000. On December 27, 1862, forty-six men had volunteered. Twenty of these boys enlisted in the 24th Regiment, Michigan Volunteers. Considering these figures, one realizes that the farms of the area were bereft — most of the young men were gone, many never to return again, in the filling of the Springwells military quota.

At the close of the Civil War, the veterans returned to their homes and more settlers began to arrive here from Europe and the east. These new people were an industrious lot. A man named Blankertz established a harness shop, Raddle opened a meat market, Schultz and Knodt became merchants. Also, a large number of them became farmers and brickmakers in both townships. Among them were the Thiels, the Nielands, the Prehns, the Wilkies, the Karmanns and the Assenmachers.

### **Church History**

Another interesting phase of Dearborn's development is the history of its churches. Michigan's first continuing Protestant Church came into being when a small group of people organized a Methodist Church in 1810. In 1818 a log church was built near the River Rouge on the old Sargent farm. This congregation still exists today as the First United Methodist Church of Dearborn. The second Protestant Church established here was the Presbyterian, organized in 1834. Its first church building was erected and dedicated in 1848.

The first Roman Catholic Church was established in 1836. Its first unit was the Parish of St. John's, now the Sacred Heart Parish. A Parish School was organized in 1852. According to records, St. Alphonsus Church and its Parish were established in what is now East Dearborn in 1842, serving the settlement around the area that is now the intersection of Michigan Avenue and Schaefer Road, old Springwells.

### **Henry Ford — The Home Town Boy Comes Home**

At the turn of the century, the two small villages and the surrounding townships continued their slow growth. However, vast changes were just around the corner — changes which would see the transition of farm and village into an industrialized giant, which would make the name of the City of Dearborn famous the world over.

In 1863, on a farm which stood where Ford Road crosses Greenfield today, there was born a son to William and Mary Ford. Young Henry Ford grew up as a farm lad typical of his day. The farm, without any mechanical aids, was a demanding taskmaster. As soon as he was old enough, chores became part of his life. He attended the Scotch Settlement and later the Miller School, where he picked up the rudiments of an education. Henry is said to have hated the drudgery of farm life and to have had no great love for school. At an early age he went to Detroit, where over the years he had a number of jobs, always



involving things mechanical. He became well known as a mechanical master and before he entered the automobile business he had risen to be the chief engineer of what today is Detroit Edison.

However, Henry had a dream. In the early 1890's, when many men were working independently on developing motors for "horseless carriages," Henry started working, also. In a shed near his home in Detroit, he built his first automobile, the "Quadricycle," which looked like a combination of bicycle and buggy. In it went an engine which immediately proved superior to others. The year was 1896. The next few years saw two abortive attempts at producing and marketing a Ford car. During this period Henry Ford also entered the racing field, where his genius at building engines produced old "999," which proceeded to break many records in the early days of the automobile. It wasn't until 1903 that the right combination of financing and partners was brought together, and the Ford Motor Company had its beginning.



**HENRY FORD** was born July 30, 1863, in his parents' farmhouse at Greenfield and Ford Roads (now a part of Dearborn, Michigan). The house was moved to Greenfield Village in 1944. The only life-size statue of Henry Ford in the United States was dedicated on June 8, 1975. It is located on the west lawn of the Henry Ford Centennial Library in Dearborn. It is a plaster cast designed and sculptured by Marshall Fredericks.

The first production was in a small wooden building on Mach Avenue in Detroit. The first Ford cars were an immediate success. Henry Ford had started out with the then radical idea that the motor car would soon replace the horse and that it must become sturdy and cheap enough to become available to the masses. In those early days, the motor car was still a play toy for rich people, but part of Mr. Ford's genius was his vision of the future. From the start he kept in mind the farming people out in Dearborn and Springwells Townships, whose lives were so hard. He could see that mechanical aids would greatly lighten the burden of farming and a sturdy car could give the country people access to markets and to the city, thus broadening their constricted lives. He worked toward a car that would fulfill this dream and with the development of the Model "T" the dream was realized.

This car of the century was introduced in 1909, and its success was a phenomenon. Within a short time Mr. Ford built his Highland Park plant to produce the "T." He kept lowering the price of the "T" and with each reduction in price he was able to snare more of the market. In the new plant he had introduced a complete utilization of the process of mass production and in 1914 he startled the world with the introduction of the \$5 day for his workers. In a few short years he had become known, not only in America but all over the world, as the "man who put the world on wheels." He was looked up to as a mechanical genius, a humanitarian and a man of the people. Incidentally, he had become one of the world's richest men.

Mr. Ford's interests also included the farm tractor. He came back to Dearborn to build a factory for the development of this idea. In 1914 he also started the construction of a permanent home, Fair Lane Estate, on the banks of the Rouge where he had roamed as a boy. With America's entry into World War I, he contracted to build "Eagle Boat" submarine chasers for the Navy and the first buildings in what was to become the Ford Rouge Plant went up for this purpose. His tractor, the Fordson, played an important part in winning the war for England and he began buying up farm property all around the villages of Dearborn and Springwells for use in experimenting with crops and testing farm machinery.

In the early 1920's, the Rouge Plant was completed, with every type of operation needed to take raw materials in one end of the plant and have finished cars roll out the other. It is still one of the largest manufacturing complexes on earth and remains the major manufacturing plant of the Ford Motor Company. This plant was built on truck farming land far from the City of Detroit. It stood near two small villages, Dearborn and Springwells, which between them had less than 5,000 inhabitants, according to the 1920 census. And yet, the Rouge Plant at one time employed 85,000 men. Where were the workers to come from? The word had gone out, before World War I, about Mr. Ford's factories and his \$5 day. There was a heavy influx into the area from many different countries of the world. The 1920's saw thousands more come to the Dearborn area, expressly to work for Ford. With their arrival, the story of modern day Dearborn begins.

### **Change and Challenge**

Between 1920 and 1930 the quiet countryside, where the villages of Dearborn and Springwells were located, went through a dramatic change. In one short decade the villages turned into one big city with 50,000 inhabitants — and what a diverse group they were! From almost every corner of the world, the new "pioneers" came to work for the growing automobile industry. As the different



ethnic groups moved into what was to become the City of Dearborn, they brought with them their customs, religions and favorite foods, plus a devotion to hard work, the ideals of American freedom and a strong belief in education. The older inhabitants worked with the new to make the city that we know today. Even unto the third generation the identities of the ethnic groups hold true, playing an important part and adding a special flavor to the city. Calling the roll in any school will illustrate the international flavor of our town.

As Springwells first, and then Dearborn incorporated as cities, they still stood apart. Between them lay acres of farmland owned by Ford, and this had a continuing influence on the town. As the cities grew during the 1920's, the Fords gave land for a library to serve the growing citizenry. The old Commandant's Quarters of the Arsenal was taken over to be used as a police station and a fire house was built on the back. Michigan Avenue, which had been paved little by little during the "teens," was paved seven lanes wide to take care of the traffic moving back and forth from the Rouge Plant and the Headquarters Building of the Ford Motor Company. Springwells became the City of Fordson in 1925 and city services of all kinds expanded as the town grew. In 1929, the cities of Fordson and Dearborn merged into one town, the City of Dearborn. Clyde M. Ford was the first mayor of the incorporated city from 1929 to early 1936.

The decade of the thirties took a terrible toll in Dearborn. Heavily industrialized as it was, the depression hit everyone. The bitterness of a hunger march and strikes caused by the unionization of the automobile plants hung heavy over the stricken town. Prohibition added to the problems already weighing on the city. Under John L. Carey, mayor of Dearborn from 1936 to 1942, business slowly picked up again as 1940 drew near and the boom of industry to supply munitions of war was about to start. The outbreak of World War II saw the vast expansion of the Rouge Plant and the building of the Ford Willow Run Bomber Plant, twenty miles west of Dearborn. At Willow Run, B-24 bombers were turned out in a demonstration of American industrial might which amounted to a miracle. Dearborn men and women responded to the call of military service and entered the war plants in record numbers. Tool and die shops sprang up. Plants that manufactured precision instruments, conducted experimental work and created war devices were built. The city hummed with work.

### **The City of Dearborn — Ford Country**

After World War II, another new era began. Mr. Henry Ford passed away in 1947. The next 25 years were to see a tremendous expansion of Ford facilities in Dearborn and other parts of the country. With the building of a new Ford World Headquarters Building in 1956, in the area of Ford farmland between the eastern and western parts of town, the city became more cohesive. Engineering and research facilities and headquarters buildings of the various Ford divisions mushroomed all over town. There was a big spurt in population and the unimproved lots were quickly developed.

And what is our city like today? First of all it is a town with many fine churches representing every variety of Christian belief. We also have a mosque, caring for the religious needs of our many citizens from the countries of the Middle East. Our school system is one of Michigan's best, fulfilling the demands of excellence by the citizens. In addition, there are a number of good parochial schools in every part of town.

Under the guidance of Mayor Orville L. Hubbard, who came into office



**HENRY FORD CENTENNIAL LIBRARY, DEARBORN**

January 6, 1942, the city services gained the applause of residents as well as national fame for community programs. A very fine recreation program, including Camp Dearborn, the Civic Center and an indoor ice arena have developed since World War II. Mayor Hubbard's 36-year term of office, the longest of any mayor in the United States, was marked by solid growth in the industrial, residential and retail areas of the city. A series of senior citizens apartments and a varied and outstanding senior citizen program were other highlights of the Hubbard years.

The 1970's marked the development of the "Middle" of Dearborn by the Ford Motor Company's Land Development Corporation. Started with the Automobile Club of America's Michigan office and completed with the Fairlane Town Center, this development has brought conventions and local residents alike to the middle of town. Tied to the Civic Center and the Ford Motor Company's World Headquarters Building, this area is rapidly becoming a hub of business for the metropolitan area.

Under the leadership of Mayor John B. O'Reilly the city has continued to grow and prosper. New housing, including Fairlane West and subdivisions on the sites of Clark and Oxford schools, and the city's Hartwell Yards bring new residents to the community. The City Hall complex, dedicated as Dearborn Town Hall during Michigan Week of 1981, has been renovated, expanded and modernized. Dearborn continues to have a fine recreation program serving preschoolers to senior citizens. Each August the city celebrates its heritage with a Homecoming Jubilee featuring entertainment, crafts, an art show and games.

The rich history of both Dearborn and the United States are preserved through two institutions. The Henry Ford Museum and Greenfield Village, preserving and exhibiting an outstanding collection of Americana, brings over one million visitors to the area each year.

The City of Dearborn preserves its history through the Dearborn Historical Commission and Museum housed in the Commandant's Quarters, the McFadden-Ross Museum and the Exhibit Annex. Depicting the community's military, social, domestic and business history, the Dearborn Historical Museum provides lectures, tours, classes, meeting space, publications and research facilities to the public.

Dearborn history is American history in microcosm. Our heritage from the pioneers in our past is the seed which will bring forth the harvest of the future for those of us who make Dearborn our home.



# THE COINFIDENCE CORNER

by Bill Quarles

In my last feature for the *Centinel* I mentioned that I would discuss some sources of authentication information which are available in addition to the services offered by the American Numismatic Association's Certification Service, which is perhaps the most well known of the organizations examining coins and passing on their authenticity.

As those of you who have followed past features are aware, I have always believed that the collector himself, through education and study, should be his own primary source when considering material for his collection. The American Numismatic Association annually sponsors a series of intensive courses in various phases of numismatics which are collectively known as the Summer Seminars. These week-long courses offer roughly 40 hours of class or laboratory time in the field of the course title.

Several different areas are available, including two courses on counterfeit detection, one for beginning students and another for advanced numismatists. In addition, a separate course on coin grading is available.

During 1983 the Summer Seminar will be offered at two different sites. From July 10 - 16 courses will be held on the campus of Colorado College, located adjacent to ANA Headquarters in Colorado Springs, Colorado. The University of California at Los Angeles will host the second series of courses on August 7 - 13.

Tuition will be \$295 for ANA members and \$325 for non-members at both sites. This charge includes room and meals, in addition to the actual course

work.

I know several dealers and collectors who have taken one or more of the Summer Seminar offerings and all speak very highly of the program. In fact, several of our Milwaukee area coin dealers attend each year and have taken the same courses several times.

Application forms are available from: ANA Summer Seminars, P. O. Box 2366, Colorado Springs, CO 80901.

Perhaps the newest source of authentication papers for coins is the National Numismatic Laboratory, Inc., which started operations in September of 1982. Located at One Lincoln Plaza, New York, NY 10023, it authenticates, and in addition grades coins, advertising that it employs the ANA grading system. The NNL certificates contain a line drawing charting the identifying characteristics of each individual coin. This charting system is designed to guard against substitution of a spurious coin for the one covered by the certificate. Under the direction of Steven Opoehinski, the NNL is a subsidiary of Kohinoor International, Ltd., a firm active in the diamond brokerage business.

A two week turn around is promised and the fee for authentication and grading is \$20 per coin plus 1 percent of declared value. Each certificate from NNL is also accompanied by color slides of the authenticated coin.

Another commercial firm which has entered the authentication field is SilverTowne, P. O. Box 424, Winchester, Indiana 47394. Under the guidance of Leon Hendrickson, SilverTowne has grown from a tiny mom n' pop opera-

tion to one of the largest coin dealers in the country. Those who attend major coin shows are always able to locate the SilverTowne table from the large crowds gathered around.

Like ANACS, SilverTowne also offers a photo certificate, but its service extends only to authentication and does not include grading. One important innovation which SilverTowne offers is a guarantee that it will always stand ready to purchase a coin it declares to be genuine as a genuine item. This may be an important distinction to some, as alternate authentication services do not make a similar purchase guarantee.

John Hunter, formerly of the ANACS staff, is in charge of SilverTowne's authentication department. Fees for the SilverTowne service are as follows: coins valued at less than \$250 are \$7; coins valued at \$251 to \$500 are \$10; and coins valued over \$500 a flat two percent is charged.

The International Numismatic Society, located in Washington, D.C., operates an Authentication Bureau under the direction of Charles Hoskins, who also served as the first Director of the American Numismatic Association's Certification Service. Mr. Hoskins has headed the INS operation since 1976. INS certificates include color photographs and the organization recently became the first to begin authenticating and grading U. S. currency. The currency portion of INS's authentication effort is done under the guidance of Tom Lightsey, a former U.S. Secret Service Agent whose professional responsibilities for the government included the examination of questioned currency.

An interesting aside is that Mr. Lightsey was present at the scene of the John Hinckley assassination attempt against President Reagan and was the agent who recovered Hinckley's weapon.

INS promises a turnaround of two

days in the vast majority of submissions. Its fees are as follows: coins valued up to \$300 are \$15; coins valued between \$301 and \$600 are \$22; those valued between \$601 and \$1000 are \$30; items from \$1001 to \$2000 are \$60; material declared between \$2001 and \$5000 is \$120; coins worth \$5001 to \$10,000 are \$240; and those valued above \$10,000 the fee is \$240 plus two percent of the amount above \$10,000. Grading is \$5 additional per coin.

INS fees include return postage, while the National Numismatic Laboratory and SilverTowne fees do not include this cost. INS can be contacted at P. O. Box 19386, Washington, D. C. 20036 for further information.

Although I have always tried to stress that the collector should attempt to educate himself to the maximum extent possible, there comes a time when it is necessary for even the most experienced numismatist to seek advice when it comes to the purchase of a particular item.

At some of the major coin shows, the American Numismatic Association Certification Service maintains an authentication table and will examine coins without charge and give an informal oral opinion. An ANACS table has become an annual feature of our Central States Numismatic Society Convention, as well as a few others in our region of which I am aware, including the Thanksgiving weekend show held in Dearborn, Michigan at the same Hyatt-Regency Hotel which will be the site of our own CSNS Convention this year.

For the past several years, Milwaukee's South Shore Coin Club, which traditionally holds its annual coin show in the Spring of the year, has also had an ANACS authentication table.

The International Numismatic Society also maintains a program of coin show attendance and will examine coins and offer informal authenticity opinions at coin shows. Although the INS's show attendance involves pri-



marily Eastern coin shows, it will be represented at the 1983 MidAmerica Coin Show to be held July 29-31 at Milwaukee's MECCA Convention Center. There is a modest fee for the INS opinion, but it is fully credited toward the cost of a formal certificate.

While it might be argued that the informal opinions mentioned above are necessarily less reliable than an opinion based upon more rigorous examination, the face to face nature of the coin show contact does allow for some educational interchange and if there is some doubt in the authenticator's

mind he can be asked about his degree of certainty and the factors he is taking into consideration.

The three services mentioned here are all possible sources of authentication advice. In the event our readers are aware of additional authentication sources I would appreciate hearing about them so the membership can be kept aware of the choices available to them in selecting authentication sources.

— Bill Quarles  
5464 N. Pt. Washington Rd.  
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53217

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## LEGAL TENDER

by Bill Mross

1.) Dear Legal Tender: I have decided to take your advice and see an attorney to plan my estate. Since I live in North Dakota, I doubt that you can be of much help to me. My life so far has been fortunate in that I have never consulted a lawyer, but this does have a drawback in that now that I feel that I need to see one, I don't know who to go to. How do I go about selecting a lawyer who will be able to meet my needs? — A. R., Fargo, ND.

Dear A. R. — You have indeed been fortunate enough in life in not needing to seek the advice of counsel. A person should really have to see a lawyer only a very few times in life. I can think of such matters as one or two real estate transactions, handling an estate or two as personal representative (perhaps you would be more familiar with the terms executor or executrix), and preparing a will, as you wish to do. It is perhaps an index that the individual is not living his life appropriately if legal services need to be resorted to very often (unless one is involved in business).

It is clearly important as to the

identity of the lawyer that you select. An attorney who specializes in personal injury work or criminal defense may be unable to effectively assist you. I would suggest that you speak with your friends and relatives to determine who they have been satisfied with in this area.

Inasmuch as you are almost certainly a numismatist, it might be well to ask around at local coin clubs for counsel used by fellow members. Going to your local courthouse and inquiring at probate court could also be instructive. You may know one or more lawyers from business or social activities. A bar association can be of great help. In Wisconsin, the State Bar of Wisconsin has a toll-free number that can be called.

You simply state the type of legal matter that you are in need of help on and the area in which you reside. A list is maintained of lawyers in that locality who are agreeable to accepting referrals under that heading and you are provided with the next name on the list. Should you reside in one of the larger counties in my state, you

simply call the local bar association for a similar service.

I think that the foregoing list is a reasonable recitation of the resources that are available to you. Good luck in your quest!

2.) Dear Legal Tender: In some of your past columns you have addressed yourself to the probable outcome of certain types of court cases. I know that lawsuits can be expensive and awfully time-consuming. Are there other ways of resolving disputes than in a court of law? — D. M., Shawnee Mission, Kansas.

Dear D. M. — The legal system sounds great on paper — but all too often it just doesn't work out very well in practice. I am increasingly coming to think that trial by battle had its distinct advantages.

There are a number of alternatives to litigation. One of them is simply to keep talking to the other party(ies) until you arrive at something that you can at least live with, if not be particularly delighted with. You can also have a lawyer do the talking for you. There is the possibility of submitting the dispute to arbitration.

By this we simply mean that the parties present their case in a more or less informal fashion to one or more people, hopefully reasonably schooled and experienced in the area involved, who reach a conclusion (often by way of compromise) that will generally be

binding upon the parties. The conclusiveness of the final result and the ground rules for operating the arbitration will usually be set down in written form in advance.

You may well select one arbitrator, the other side would select an arbitrator, and the two arbitrators so-selected choose a third. This method of doing things is very often used in labor contracts and may be required by law for public employee contracts. Your local office of the American Arbitration Association could furnish you with further particulars on this. If you resort to this method of dispute resolution you will ordinarily be barred from court review of a result that is unsatisfactory to you unless you can show fraud or some gross irregularity in the conduct of the arbitration.

As a reaction to the difficulties with the court system, some legal commentators are suggesting, and some localities are establishing, mediation centers where many controversies that would otherwise go to court are settled by mediators or arbitrators so long as the parties consent to it. In my community, small claims cases involving less than \$300 have been addressed to such a service with the consent of the parties, for what appear to have been highly successful resolutions.

Hope that the foregoing has been a reasonable overview for you.

'Til next time—

Bill Mross, "Legal Tender"

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# MEMBERSHIP APPLICATIONS

The persons named below have applied for membership in the Society. Each applicant will become a member in 30 days, unless a written objection to his or her application is received by the Secretary-Treasurer prior to that date.

## REGULAR MEMBERSHIP

|        |                         |                             |
|--------|-------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 3969   | Randall Pollock .....   | Lawrence, New York          |
| 3970   | Lee Hoffman .....       | Kansas City, Missouri       |
| 3971   | Ronald W. Harris .....  | Rolla, Missouri             |
| J-3972 | Jamie Tremaine .....    | Excelsior Springs, Missouri |
| J-3973 | Debbie Wilamowski ..... | Fraser, Michigan            |
| 3974   | Thomas M. Denly .....   | Boston, Massachusetts       |
| 3975   | Donald R. Ohler .....   | Orange City, Florida        |
| 3976   | Joe Buzanowski .....    | LaPlace, Louisiana          |
| 3977   | Marvin Bierman .....    | Chesterfield, Missouri      |
| 3978   | Dr. G. W. Vogt .....    | Houston, Texas              |
| 3979   | Scott C. Hocevar .....  | Kalamazoo, Michigan         |

## LIFE MEMBER APPLICANTS

|     |                       |                  |
|-----|-----------------------|------------------|
| 297 | William Lower * ..... | Ithaca, New York |
| 298 | Paul Padget .....     | Cincinnati, Ohio |

Asterisk (\*) indicates regular member applying for life member status.

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# SHOW CALENDAR

Show Chairmen are invited to send announcements of upcoming coin shows in the Central States region. The Show Calendar is intended to assist collectors and dealers in planning their show attendance. It is also designed to aid show sponsors in avoiding date conflicts. Show dates will be listed up to 24 months in advance and show sponsors are encouraged to submit dates for future shows through March of 1985. Please include the city where the show will be held, official name of show, show dates and location, as well as the name, address, and phone number of the show or bourse chairman. Send to: Kevin Foley, P. O. Box 589, Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53201.

## **DEARBORN, MICHIGAN — APRIL 7 - 10, 1983**

Central States Numismatic Society 44th Anniversary Convention, Hyatt-Regency Hotel. Helen Sedo, P. O. Box 891, Dearborn, Michigan 48121.

## **TOLEDO, OHIO — APRIL 9 - 10, 1983**

Rainbow Promotions Toledo Coin Show, Sheraton Westgate Inn, 3536 Secor Road, I-475 at Exit 17. Ron Nelson, P. O. Box 22673, Cleveland, Ohio 44122. (216) 338-3182.

## **RACINE, WISCONSIN — APRIL 17, 1983**

Racine Numismatic Society Annual Coin Show, Racine Sheraton Inn. Bill Mross, Box 21, Racine, Wisconsin 53401.

## **MADISON, WISCONSIN — APRIL 17, 1983**

Madison Coin Club's Annual Coin Show. Sheraton Inn and Conference Center, 706 John Nolan Drive. Robert C. Kraft, 404 Glenway Street, Madison, Wisconsin 53711. (608) 233-3519.

## **MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA — APRIL 15 - 17, 1983**

49th Annual Northwest Coin Club Coin Show. Leamington Hotel, 10th Street and 3rd Avenue South. Kenneth Eikaland, Box 18053, Minneapolis, Minnesota 55418. (816) 241-1152.

## **WAUKESHA, WISCONSIN — APRIL 24, 1983**

Waukesha Coin Club Annual Coin Show. Waukesha County Exposition Center. Leo Neidinger, Box 321, Brookfield, Wisconsin 53005. (414) 542-2171.

## **FLINT, MICHIGAN — APRIL 22 - 24, 1983**

Michigan State Numismatic Society Spring Convention and Coin Show. Hyatt-Regency Hotel. MSNS, Box 363, Wyandotte, Michigan 48192.



**CHICAGO, ILLINOIS — MAY 13 - 15, 1983**

National Numismatic Network Spring Coin Show. Sheraton O'Hare Inn. Paula Farrell, 1423 West Fullerton Avenue, Chicago, Illinois 60614. (312) 528-3947.

**OGALALLA, NEBRASKA — MAY 14 - 15, 1983**

Nebraska Numismatic Association Annual Convention and Coin Show. Holiday Inn, 201 Chuckwagon Road. John J. Gabarron, Box 30011, Lincoln, Nebraska 68503. (402) 476-3029.

**PLYMOUTH, MICHIGAN — MAY 13 - 15, 1983**

Metropolitan Detroit Area Renaissance Coin Show. Plymouth Hilton Inn, 14707 Northville Road. Fred Oliver, Box 491, Garden City, Mich. 48135. (313) 729-2118

**CLEVELAND, OHIO — JUNE 3 - 5, 1983**

1983 Metropolitan Cleveland Coin Show. Cleveland Hilton South, 6200 Quarry Lane. Fred Bart, Box 35134, Cleveland, Ohio 44135. (216) 267-3178

**CINCINNATI, OHIO — JUNE 3 - 5, 1983**

Rainbow Promotions Cincinnati Coin Show, Marriott Inn, 11320 Chester Road, I-75 Exit 15. Ron Nelson, P. O. Box 22673, Cleveland, Ohio 44122. (216) 338-3182.

**INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA — JUNE 17 - 19, 1983**

Indiana State Numismatic Association Annual Coin Show and Convention, Indiana Convention Center, 100 South Capitol Avenue. Jerry Lebo, Box 44337, Indianapolis Indiana 46204. (317) 637-5116.

**CHICAGO, ILLINOIS — JUNE 24 - 26, 1983**

4th Annual N. O. I. S. E. Coin Convention. Rosemont Exposition Center. James Irmen, Box 424, Wood Dale, Illinois 60191. (312) 980-3200.

**MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN — JULY 29 - 31, 1983**

1983 MidAmerica Coin Show, MECCA Convention Center, 4th and Kilbourn Streets. Kevin Foley, Box 589, Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53201. (414) 282-2388.

**PEORIA, ILLINOIS — SEPTEMBER 9 - 11, 1983**

Illinois Numismatic Association Coin Convention, Continental Regency Hotel, 500 Hamilton, Boulevard. Joe Mileham, B & J Coin Shop, 3123 South Dirksen Parkway, Springfield, Illinois 62703. (217) 529-6277

**JOPLIN, MISSOURI — SEPTEMBER 10 - 11, 1983**

Southwest Collectors Association Coin, Stamp, and Card Show. Ramada Inn, 3320 South Rangeline. Jack Craddock, Box 242, Carthage, Missouri 64836.

**KOKOMO, INDIANA — OCTOBER 8 - 9, 1983**

Markland Mall Coin and Stamp Show. Highway 31 Bypass and Markland Avenue. Bob Dierking, 324 Baker Street, Mishawaka, Indiana 46544.

**MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN — OCTOBER 7 - 9, 1983**

Milwaukee Numismatic Society 49th Annual Fall Coin Show. MECCA Convention Center. A. P. "Del" Bertschy, 3939 North Murray Ave., Shorewood, Wisconsin 53211.

**HOPKINS, MINNESOTA — OCTOBER 8 - 9, 1983**

Minnesota Organization of Numismatists Annual Coin Show and Convention, Hopkins House. Jerry Swanson, Box 565, Rochester, Minn. 55901.

**CHICAGO, ILLINOIS — OCTOBER 28 - 30, 1983**

National Numismatic Network Fall Coin Show. Sheraton O'Hare Inn. Paula Farrell, 1423 West Fullerton Avenue, Chicago, Illinois 60614. (312) 528-3947.

**DAYTON, OHIO — NOVEMBER 4 - 6, 1983**

12th Semi-Annual Greater Dayton Coin Expo. Dayton Exposition and Convention Center, 5th and Main. Ron Crouch, 188 Lynnhaven Drive, Dayton, Ohio 45431. (513) 254-9589.

**DEARBORN, MICHIGAN — NOVEMBER 25 - 27, 1983**

Michigan State Numismatic Society 28th Fall Coin Show and Convention, Hyatt Regency Hotel. MSNS, Box 2014, Livonia, Michigan 48154.

**JOPLIN, MISSOURI — DECEMBER 3 - 4, 1983**

Southwest Collectors Association Coin, Stamp, and Card Show. Ramada Inn, 3320 South Rangeline. Jack Craddock, Box 242, Carthage, Missouri 64836.

**RECURRING SHOWS**

Rosemont (Chicago), Illinois — 2nd Sunday of every month. N. O. I. S. E. Monthly Coin Show. Ramada O'Hara Inn, Higgins and Mannheim Roads. Joseph Irmen, Box 424, Wood Dale, Illinois 60191.

Monroe, Michigan — Monroe Coin Show, 2nd Sunday of the month, Holiday Inn near I-75 Dixie Highway exit. Frenchie's Coin and Stamp Mart, 423 West Front Street, Monroe, Michigan 48161.

Cincinnati, Ohio — Third Sunday Monthly Coin and Collectables Show (Auction at 3:30 p.m.). American Legion Hall, 11100 Winton Road, Greenhills, Ohio. Gary Perkins, P. O. Box 39301, Cincinnati, Ohio 45239.

Columbus, Ohio — Second Sunday Coin Show. Holiday Inn North, I-71 and Route 161. Craig E. Heilman, P. O. Box 02131, Columbus, Ohio 43202 (614-888-1759).

Toledo, Ohio — Fourth Sunday of the month. Blue Ribbon Coin and Stamp Show. Legion Hall, 206 South Byrne Road. John Sheets, Sr., P. O. Box 7115, Toledo, Ohio 43615.



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The Milwaukee Numismatic Society's 48th Annual Coin Show last October was the largest and finest club sponsored show in the north central United States in 1982

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## 1939 — 1983

Do you remember when "The Three Little Fishes" was popular? It was one of those silly songs like "Mairzy Doats" and "Hutsut Song" that come and go. However, "The Beer Barrel Polka" became popular in 1939, and just like the Central States Numismatic Society which was organized that year, both have survived and are still going strong.

So what else happened in 1939? Well, FDR was in his second term of office as president of the United States; the New York World's Fair opened in April; and Hitler invaded Poland in September. Steinbeck's book "The Grapes of Wrath" was published, and "Gone With the Wind" premiered in December. Oh, yes, the top box office attraction was Mickey Rooney (remember the Hardy Boys' series?), and the top swing band was none other than Benny Goodman.

Enough of the past, and back to the present! This year we're celebrating CSNS's 44th anniversary at the convention in Dearborn, Michigan. Each and everyone of YOU is invited, so do come and join the celebration.

Helen Sedo, General Chairperson

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## THE YN PAGE



One of the most exciting things about being a member of a large regional numismatic organization such as Central States is the possibility of attending the annual convention. This year's convention will be held at the Hyatt-Regency Hotel in Dearborn, MI.

One of the themes a young numismatist should stress in his interest in our hobby is education. Since numismatics and history are closely related fields of study, I want to mention that when visiting Dearborn the opportunity to visit the Henry Ford Museum and Greenfield Village shouldn't be missed.

Located adjacent to one another and within two minutes of the convention hotel, these are two of the most heavily attended tourist features anywhere in the United States. One advantage



our members will have, however, with our Spring Convention dates is that the large crowds which traditionally elog both facilities during the summer vacation period will be considerably lighter.

Greenfield Village has the quality of a time machine about it. For those who aren't familiar with the village, it contains several dozen buildings with a significant bearing on America's past. These aren't reproductions, but the actual buildings which have been transported here from their original sites.

Imagine being able to walk inside the Wright Brothers Dayton, Ohio workshop and see some of the actual pieces of machinery used by these aviation pioneers in their work. Also on the village grounds are a number of buildings from the research facilities of Thomas Edison. Numerous photographs of Edison and his researchers line the walls of the two-story main laboratory, and the very chair where Edison sat while conducting his successful electric light bulb test is nailed to the floor in the same spot in was believed to have been when Edison performed his now famous experiment.

What many of our members may not know is that Edison and Henry Ford were close friends, and that when Greenfield Village first opened to the public it was on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of Edison's inven-

tion of the electric light bulb. At the behest of his friend Ford, Edison came to Dearborn and reenacted the light bulb experiment in person to mark the opening of the museum and village.

The boarding house where Edison's research assistants lived has also been transported to the village and is open for you to visit and experience. This boarding house was one of the first private residences to be electrified in the country and the electrical wires can still be seen strung along the walls and ceiling.

One unanticipated problem in the early electrification of our country was the fire hazard caused by the cotton insulation which covered the wires in homes. As heat from the electrical resistance in the cables built up it was not uncommon for the insulation to catch on fire and in turn lead to a conflagration which would destroy the entire building — so our time is not necessarily the one where consumers face the greatest hazards in their daily lives.

The Henry Ford Museum, located next to Greenfield Village, and like the village, worthy of a full day's visit, contains a nearly endless array of artifacts from America's past.

A visit to both is highly recommended and will be an experience which should send even the hardest to please home with many enjoyable stories to tell.

— Shawn Duthie

**The Dearborn Coin Club welcomes  
The Central States Numismatic Society to  
Dearborn and reminds convention attendees  
to consult the official convention program  
for last minute schedule changes.**

**— Helen Sedo  
General Chairperson**

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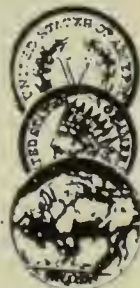


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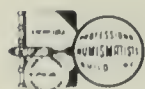
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